Freight computerisation programme

34. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the freight computerisation programme;

(b) in what manner this programme is planned to be executed; and

(c) what improvements are expected in performance of freight traffic as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Freight computerisation programme on Indian Railways envisages setting up of an Information and Control System to capture the status and movements of wagons and locomotives, with a view to monitoring them on real-time.

(b) The scheme will be introduced in a phased manner. Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), a Society set up by the Ministry of Railways, will be responsible for the design development and implementation of the scheme.

(c) The system will help the management in planning, monitoring, and reviewing Freight Operations with a view to improving the utilisation of wagons and locomotives. This will also lead to better customer satisfaction by way of more efficient and reliable freight services.

Restoration of D.T.C. buses upto block 27 of Trilok Puri

35. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the D.T.C. buses were earlier plying upto block No. 27 of Trilok Puri in Trans Yamuna area;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these buses are now plying only upto block No. 13;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when these buses are likely to be plied again upto block No. 27 of Trilok Puri?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Sewer work on the road connecting Block No. 13 with Block No. 27 is still in progress and therefore the operation of buses has to be suspended till the above portion becomes motorable.

Subway link between Madras airport and Trisulam railway station

36. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coordination meeting of the three Ministries has given the green signal to start work on the subway to link Madras Airport to Trisulam Railway Station;

(b) whether this subway will provide walking plotforms in motion such as escalators; and

(c) what is the tentative cost of the subway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The Traffic Action Committee of Tamil Nadu Government has suggested construction of a separate lane for the traffic flowing from Madras city to the New Domestic Air Terminal, since the present flow involves right turning movement. The proposed separate lane starts from Ch: 1723m of NH 45 beyond Meenambakkam, the total length being 300m. The first 211.50m portion will be on down ramp of slope 1 in 30. A vertical clearance of 5.0m is provided at the

entrance of the Tirusoolam Railway Station parking lot. Thereafter the same level will be continued till it crosses the NH 45 at a point 20m away from Km. 17/6. The proposed lane crossing with NH 45 will have to be done by means of an underpass-subway.

The full details of the scheme are being worked out by the National Highway Department of the Tamil Nadu Government, since the State Public Works Department is, as per the present programme, to take up the scheme, involving as it does construction of road network and subway in the land owned by Railways, State Government and IAAI; IAAI may finance the construction cost of its part.

The estimated cost of the scheme is at present placed at Rs. 1 crore, as intimated by the National Highway Department of State Government.

Cancellation of trains on the eve of Bengal Bandh

37. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of trains which were cancelled on the eve of Bengal Bandh on the 14th September, 1988; and

(b) what is the estimated financial loss suffered by Railways as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 468 number of Passenger trains and 1453 suburban trains were cancelled as a result of Bengal Bandh on 14th September, 1988.

(b) Train-wise statistics of earnings and loss are not maintained.

Foster parent scheme for girls' education in the country

38. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce foster parent scheme for girls' education in the country, on the pattern of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Since school education is looked after primarily by the State Governments, it is for them to initiate and implement such a scheme. The Government of India feels it is a good, innovative scheme for promoting girls' education. It has accordingly been commended to states in June, 1984 and March, 1988 for implementation.

Drop-outs in schools

39. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of children in the country in the age group of 6—11 years who are (i) studying in schools; (ii) not studying in schools as on 31st October, 1988;

(b) what is the number of drop-outs; and

(c) what steps have been taken so far to bring more children to schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) According to the projected population estimates based on 1981 census, the number of school going children in the age group 6—11 years (as on 1.3.1987) was 93784 lakhs. Against this the number of school going children at primary stage (classes I-V, as on 30.9.86) was 899.93 lakhs.

(b) The latest data available about drop-out at primary stage (Classes I-V) pertaining to the year 1983-84 indicates that the drop out at that stage was 50.26 per cent.